## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Eddy LAMBERT et al

Title: BURNER MEMBRANE COMPRISING A NEEDLED METAL FIBRE WEB

Prior Appl. No.: 09/509,427

Prior Appl.

Filing Date: 03/28/2000

Examiner: A. Wachtel

Art Unit: 1764

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present Divisional Application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

The amendments presented below are in compliance with the revised amendment format permitted in the Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Administration of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated February 10, 2003, and published at 1267 OG 106 on February 25, 2003. Thus, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) are waived for amendments made in this application to the claims, specification, and drawings.

Amendments to the Abstract are presented as a new Abstract attached to this document for insertion after the claim pages of the application (or to replace the previously submitted Abstract).

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: